

\$176,000 IN BRIBERY FUND.

Sum Paid Pittsburg Councilmen for Selection of Depositories.

BRIEF RESPITE FOR SUSPECTS.

Probable No New Steps Will Be Taken Till After Holidays—Promise Plenty of Money to "Clean Up" City. More Bankers May Be Involved.

Pittsburg, Dec. 25.—That at least \$176,000 was paid councilmen for the selection of certain bank depositories for the city's funds has been almost positively established through evidence submitted and statements furnished by the Voters' league and the Scranton detectives employed by the league to give this city a municipal house cleaning. Whether all of the banks selected as depositories contributed to this fund has not been established. Officers of but one bank have so far been arrested and they are charged with the payment of only \$17,500 of the alleged bribery fund. That other bankers are to be arrested is almost positively stated by those back of the probe.

Mayor Guthrie, who refused to make contracts with the banks, as authorized by the council, on the ground that they were illegal, said that the selection of the depositories is void because secured by bribery and fraud and that the council can set them aside without the formality of court proceedings. The period for which the depositories were selected expires early in February.

That other arrests are to be made is practically admitted by all concerned in the cases, but the present intention is to let the matter rest until after the holidays. Detectives are still at work, however, and if developments make it necessary officers will close in upon the suspects before the time now fixed by the league.

The Voters' league has been assured of all the financial backing needed, it was stated by Vice President H. B. W. English. The league depends wholly upon voluntary contributions, but Mr. English said any sum up to \$500,000 can be secured any time it is needed without effort, proffers having been made by leading wealthy men of the city.

WOULD TEACH ART OF FARMING.

Secretary Greene Wants it Made Part of Public School Curriculum.

Des Moines, Dec. 25.—Secretary Wesley Greene of the Iowa Horticultural society wants every farm to be a training school in the art of farming, and he recommends that the art of practical farming be taught in the public schools. To this end he wants every school house to have a certain amount of land, which shall be cultivated each year and the scholars taught the art of farming in a manner which will show them the practical side of agriculture. He would have a male teacher and provide a dwelling on the land, the crop of the land to go to the teacher. In this manner, Secretary Greene believes, the interest of the teacher and pupils would be equal and the result would be beneficial to the youth of the state. This would prepare the student for the state agricultural college and make it much more popular than it is at present. He thinks the crops raised would go a long way toward paying the teacher.

Death of Iowa Pioneer.

Creston, Ia., Dec. 25.—Patrick Sweeney, a wealthy retired farmer, died at the home of his son, aged eighty years, of cancer of the neck. He came to Iowa fifty years ago and was a successful agriculturist.

Burned to Death in Barn.

Sioux City, Dec. 25.—Having accidentally set fire with sparks from his pipe to the barn, where he was feeding his horses, R. S. Jones, aged sixty, a well-to-do farmer, was burned to death at Kingsley.

TAFT MAY OPEN NEW CHANNEL.

Effort Being Made to Have His Boat Proceed Through Southwest Pass.

New Orleans, Dec. 25.—To have the vessel which will bear President-elect Taft to this city from his Panama trip, the first to use Southwest pass, at the mouth of the Mississippi river, is planned by the New Orleans board of trade. The war department will be asked if the channel cannot be officially opened on the date on which Mr. Taft is to pass from the gulf to the river. The work of bringing the Southwest pass to a uniform depth of thirty-five feet has been practically completed.

Second Tragedy in Ambroz Family.

St. Paul, Neb., Dec. 25.—Albert Ambroz, Jr. living with his parents near Farwell, committed suicide Christmas day by shooting himself in the breast with a shotgun. It is the second tragedy in the family within two weeks, an older brother having been killed in a runaway accident. No motive is assigned for the act of the young man, whose family is prominent and wealthy.

Woman Run Down by Auto.

New York, Dec. 3.—Mrs. Gifford Dudley, widow of a Topeka (Kan.) banker, was run down by an automobile and probably fatally injured on Broadway. Her skull was fractured and she received serious injuries internally.

SHORN OF TRESSES IN SLEEP.

Mystery in Strange Assault on Young Woman With Auburn Hair.

Fort Wayne, Ind., Dec. 26.—Miss Clara Kayser, well known for her remarkable growth of auburn hair, was the victim of a peculiar assault during the night, and the fact that she rose in the morning with a headache is regarded as evidence that she was chloroformed.

Miss Kayser retired with her hair loosened, as is her custom, and in the morning when she awoke she saw her tresses lying on the floor beside the bed. A pair of scissors lay near the bed and tracks on the outside of her window indicated that the intruder was a man. The case is involved in mystery.

FATAL FIGHT IN JIM CROW COACH.

Blacks Plunge Through Car Windows to Escape Bullets.

Fort Smith, Ark., Dec. 26.—One negro was killed and two others fatally wounded during a fight in the negro coach of a St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern railroad negro excursion train between this city and Cherokee Junction, Okla. Four other negroes who plunged through the car windows to escape the bullets, cannot be accounted for. Treatment finally overpowered some of the disturbers and they were lodged in jail at Sallisaw.

FIVE NEGROES FATALLY SHOT.

Attempt to Steal Jug of Whisky Results in Pistol Fight.

Hopkinsville, N. Y., Dec. 26.—Five negroes were perhaps fatally wounded in a general pistol fight at Fidelity Eugene Carrot, Thomas Sanders John Garrot and Ike Garrot are the victims. Charles Sanders attempted to steal a jug of whisky and was shot. This started a general fight, in which nearly a hundred shots were fired.

DUEL TO DEATH WITH KNIVES.

Rival Suitors Slash Each Other and Peacemaker.

Cleveland, Dec. 26.—A duel to the death with knives in a dark room between two suitors for the hand of four-year-old Julia Pice, resulted in the death of Powell Fromich and the serious injury of Michael Milanovitch, who is under arrest on the charge of murder. Fromich's brother was probably fatally stabbed when he attempted to separate the fighting men. The girl was struck by Milanovitch and badly hurt. Both Fromich and Milanovitch had pressed their suit and proposed marriage to the girl. She refused each in his turn. Each thought the other the cause of his rejection. Both men were boarders in the Pice home.

Milanovitch is said to have gone to Fromich's room and accused the latter of stealing his sweetheart.

"I am going to kill you for it," the police say he threatened. Then ensued the fatal fight. The men slashed at each other and also at Fromich's brother when he tried to act as a peacemaker.

DRIVER KILLED IN AUTO RACE.

Three Others Severely Injured When Car Strikes Curb and Overturns.

Oakland, Cal., Dec. 26.—As a result of a wild automobile race on the boulevard one man was instantly killed and another man and two young women were severely injured. The accident occurred near San Leandro.

The dead, W. L. Mowery, chauffeur. The injured: A. Jorgensen, Marie Jorgensen, his sister; Mary Jansen.

Mowery, with his party, was racing with another machine driven by John Morgan. The former machine came to grief on a sharp and dangerous double turn, which Mowery attempted to make while going at terrific speed. The automobile broke away from the control of its driver, skidded to one side, struck the curb and turned completely over. Mowery was caught and pinned under his machine. The steering wheel rested on his neck and the back of the front seat had crushed his chest. Death was almost instantaneous. The others were thrown clear of the wreck, and to this fact they owe their lives.

Parents Fight; Babe Is Killed.

Philadelphia, Dec. 26.—Albert Turner, aged fifteen weeks, was killed in a peculiar manner during a fight between his parents here. William Turner, the father, according to the report made to the police, attacked his wife because she did not have breakfast ready when he came down stairs. Mrs. Turner had the child in her arms and in the fight she dropped it to the floor. She was subsequently knocked down and fell upon the infant, crushing it to death. Both parents were arrested.

Huge Clock Installed at Chicago.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—One of the largest clocks in the world has been placed in Mitchell tower at the University of Chicago. Professor Earl B. Person, who designed the mammoth timepiece, has made provision for a bell, weighing 7,000 pounds, and the strokes may be heard five miles. The four dials, which will be illuminated at night, are readable for half a mile.

Finland Expelling Hebrews.

Helsingfors, Dec. 25.—One of the periodic expulsions of Hebrews is now going on in Finland. Thirty families have been ordered to emigrate at once.

POULTRY AND PET STOCK SHOW OPENS.

Exhibitors Are in Omaha From Every Section of the Country.

Omaha, Dec. 28.—When the Trans-Mississippi Poultry and Pet Stock association's big show opened today, the big legion cock-to-the-walk announced it early by starting a crowing, which was taken up by many other feathered fowls, which have cases in the Auditorium with the result every exhibit was awake before the caretakers were on hand.

The big show promises to be one of the best ever held in the Missouri valley. Exhibitors are here from every part of the country, with Nebraska and Iowa leading. In addition to the numerous cages of poultry and pet stock, many incubator and breeder manufacturers have large spaces for their exhibits. The show will continue for four days.

Apply Torch to Weed Jam.

Beaver City, Neb., Dec. 28.—By setting fire to an immense jam of Russian thistle weeds which had formed in a cut a few miles north of town, a most unique railroad blockade was raised. The immense propagation of the thistle the past two years has caused much apprehension to farmers. With a lack of snow thousands of them have been broken off and rolled in heaps across the prairie, filling the railroad cuts to an extent which made it necessary for trackmen to remove them with pitchforks. Conductor E. Wright set fire to the weeds and it took but a few minutes to clear the cut.

Cutting Affray at McCook.

McCook, Neb., Dec. 28.—Otto Hendrick and Harry Pearce, the latter colored, are seriously injured as the result of a brawl and several other young men who attempted to take a part in the melee received slight cuts. Hendrick and Pearce quarreled over some trivial matter and both drew knives. They slashed each other in a frightful manner, but none of the cuts touched vital spots. Several young men of considerable prominence are said to have been mixed up in the affair, which has caused a sensation.

BIGGY'S BODY NOT FOUND.

A. D. Cutter Appointed Temporary Chief of Police.

San Francisco, Dec. 2.—Although numerous boats have patrolled and searched the bay since daylight from the Golden Gate to Hunters' point, and the officers of the ferryboats and other craft were asked to keep a sharp lookout, the body of Chief of Police William J. Biggy, who disappeared from the police launch patrol and is believed to have fallen overboard, has not been recovered. It is feared that the body has been carried out to sea.

Police Commissioner Kell, who lives in Belvidere and to confer with whom Biggy crossed the bay, said that the chief was much worried and concerned over the attacks upon him by some of the newspapers and the charges and counter-charges growing out of the suicide at the county jail of Morris Haas, the assailant of Assistant District Attorney Francis J. Heney. The commissioner said that he advised Biggy to pay no attention to the attacks upon him and that the chief left his home in a more cheerful frame of mind, but complaining that he was not feeling well.

The police commissioners met with Mayor Taylor and, after an executive session, appointed A. D. Cutter, president of the commission, acting chief of police, pending the appointment of a permanent head of the department.

Co-Ed Plan Tag Campaign.

Iowa City, Ia., Dec. 3.—The co-eds of the Iowa university have planned a tag campaign for a new women's building at the university. They will go to their Christmas vacations prepared to buttonhole every legislator in Iowa for an appropriation for the purpose. Mrs. H. M. Towner of the Iowa Federation of Women's clubs heads the movement.

Boy Hunting Kills His Brother.

Mason City, Ia., Dec. 3.—While out hunting rabbits Will Hough, aged eighteen years, shot and killed his brother, Guy, aged twenty-five years. They had separated, and Will fired a ball at a running rabbit, and it struck Guy in the throat.

Woman Shoots Herself.

New York, Dec. 3.—A prepossessing and richly gowned young woman, who had registered at a Brooklyn hotel as Mrs. S. H. Falconer of Sioux Falls, S. D., stood before a mirror in her room and fired a bullet into her brain. She was dead when a neighbor, attracted by the revolver report, entered the room.

MOVING PICTURE SHOWS STOPPED.

New York Showmen Will Contest Mayor McClellan's Decree.

New York, Dec. 26.—More than three hundred of New York city's moving picture showmen met and protested against Mayor McClellan's action in closing their licenses and closing their shows. A committee of twenty-five was appointed to report on a plan of organization to contest the mayor's action. The mayor's order was aimed at exhibitors of objectionable pictures and places where were not living up to the fire regulations, and it was stated by him that renewals of licenses would only be granted to showmen whose places are conducted unobjectionably, who take proper precautions against fire, and pledge themselves not to open their places on Sundays.

The mayor's order was rigidly enforced in Manhattan and the Bronx.

TO QUELL INDIAN UPRISING.

Attacks on Englishmen Are Alarming-ly on the Increase.

Calcutta, Nov. 27.—Lord Minto, viceroy of India, arrived in this city and will take active measures to quell the uprising against Englishmen, which is assuming most menacing proportions. The viceroy cut short his excursion into the north following advice that the native disaffections were alarmingly on the increase.

A Bengal attempted to kill Public Prosecutor Hume with a bomb in a railroad carriage near Agurpura. There were three other Europeans in the car. The bomb, loaded with dumdum bullets, fell short and exploded outside the carriage. None of the Europeans was injured. Superintendent of Police Clough has been murdered by a native at Lyaltpur.

MEN OF LEARNING MEET THIS WEEK.

Science Association's Sessions Will Begin Today.

Baltimore, Dec. 28.—Men of light and leading in all branches of scientific thought, members of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, began here today their annual session, which will extend over several days. The meetings, which will be held at Johns Hopkins university and will be open to the public, will be filled with popular instruction as well as scientific value, since a program of interest to the nonscientific visitor as well as to the savant has been prepared. Receptions, dinners, smokers and other gatherings have been arranged in addition to the stated program.

Preceding the regular meetings of the association there have been several meetings to listen to papers relating the progress of scientific research during the past year and to celebrate the centenary of the birth of Charles Darwin and the semi-centenary of the first publication of his monumental work, "The Origin of Species." One of the speakers at the Darwin celebrations has been Professor Edward B. Poulton of England, one of the world's leading evolutionists.

HENEY MAY TAKE A HAND.

Graft Prosecutor to Inquire into National Banks at Pittsburg.

Pittsburg, Dec. 28.—There is a rumor that Francis J. Heney, who uncovered the Oregon land frauds and who was conspicuous in the San Francisco prosecutions, is coming here shortly, at the request of President Roosevelt, to investigate the alleged bribery so far as it is connected with federal institutions. According to Washington reports, Mr. Heney was in conference with the president on the Pittsburg situation. If he comes here it will be in the capacity of a special examiner, it is said, to investigate the alleged use of money by officials of national banks to have their institutions made depositories of the city's funds.

ATTACKS AGENT AND IS SHOT.

Alleged Participants in Attempted Holdup in Jail at Lincoln.

Lincoln, Dec. 28.—A man giving the name of Joel B. Clarke and Omaha as his home is a prisoner in the city jail, with a bad bullet wound in the leg, the result of an encounter with W. D. O'Grady, night agent at the Rock Island station. With Clark in jail is a man who says his name is Charles De Vorak, also claiming Omaha as his home. O'Grady charges the two with attempting to hold him up at the station, and it is alleged their plan was to rob the depot. The men came in on the westbound Rock Island train, and after its departure entered the baggage room, where the agent was at work. They said they were express company employes, and asked permission to remain in the room until daylight. O'Grady refused to let them stay, and says they assaulted him, knocking him down. He managed to get his revolver and fired at them repeatedly, wounding Clark. De Vorak ran for a passing freight and managed to get aboard, but policemen attracted by the shooting chased and pulled him off. Clark, on account of his wound, was easily captured. The men admitted to the police that they had trouble with the agent, but denied any intention of robbing the depot. Clark explains his conduct by saying he was drunk.

WILL HOLD JOINT SESSIONS.

American Historical and Political Science Associations to Meet.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Many of the most eminent historical scholars of the country will gather here on Monday to attend the twenty-fourth annual meeting of the American Historical association, which will hold its sessions in this city and in Richmond, Va., from the 28th to the 31st. It is expected that three or four hundred delegates will be present. The first and second sessions of the association will be held in this city, after which the delegates will meet in Richmond, where their concluding sessions will be held.

Two Killed in Pistol Duel.

Ponceatoula, La., Dec. 26.—Irwin Cooper and William Arnold killed each other in a pistol duel in a saloon here. Cooper was the bartender in the saloon where the tragedy occurred, and it is said that the difficulty followed some words which Cooper had with Arnold's younger brother.

Vision Appears to Pope.

Rome, Dec. 25.—The Italia publishes a report which has caused a sensation in ecclesiastical circles that John of Arc recently appeared in a vision to the pope and addressed to him solemn words of encouragement exhorting him to continue his present policies which she promised would shortly be crowned with triumph.

Ambassador Grimm Resigns.

Washington, Dec. 25.—The resignation of Lord C. Grimm, ambassador to Italy, reported by the Associated Press dispatch, was submitted to the state department. Grimm's resignation was received by the state department.

TO CONSERVE ALL NORTH AMERICA.

Canada and Mexico Invited To White House Conference.

WILL BE HELD FEBRUARY 18.

Gifford Pinchot Starts on Mission to Montreal Today—Will Then Carry Invitation to President Diaz at Mexico City—President Suggests Plan.

Washington, Dec. 25.—It was announced at the White House that a conference looking toward the conservation of the natural resources of North America would be held at the White House Feb. 18 next.

Letters suggesting the plan have been addressed by President Roosevelt to the governor general and to the premier of Canada and to President Diaz of Mexico. They will be delivered to the officials in person by Gifford Pinchot, chairman of the national conservation commission and chief forester of the United States.

Mr. Pinchot will first visit Canada, leaving today. He will then carry the invitation to President Diaz at Mexico City.

The proposed conference is the outgrowth of the two conservation conferences in which the governors of the states and territories were the principal conferees. At the second conference representatives of the Canadian government expressed their sympathy with the movement.

The outgrowth was the idea of a North American organization for the conservation of natural resources and to deliberate on the practicability of preparing a general plan adapted to promote the welfare of the nations concerned.

The representatives designated by the Canadian and Mexican governments will consult with representatives of the state and other departments of this government and with the conservation commission. The object will be to point out that natural resources are not limited by national boundary lines, to develop a better knowledge of the natural resources of each nation on the part of the others and to invite suggestions for concurrent action for the protection of mutual interests relative to conservation.

FUNERAL OF GLAUS SPRECKELS.

Sugar King Is Buried With Simple Ceremonies at San Francisco.

San Francisco, Dec. 28.—The funeral of Claus Spreckels, the multi-millionaire sugar king, who died at his home in this city Saturday of pneumonia, was held from the family residence this afternoon.

The body lay in state in one of the large rooms of the mansion yesterday, and many persons called at the house to pay last honors to the dead man.

The funeral was exceedingly simple, by the wish of the family. The honorary pall bearers were: D. N. Earl, E. W. Hopkins, Robert Oxnard, W. G. Irwin, John Scott Wilson, Captain H. L. E. Meyer, Dr. L. L. Dorr and Charles Holbrook. The interment took place in Cypress cemetery.

BRYAN ON GOMPERS DECISION.

Says Labor Leaders Did Their Duty in Testing Law.

Washington, Dec. 25.—William J. Bryan was chief among nearly two score of men who sent messages expressive of their cordial sympathy to President Gompers, Vice President Mitchell and Secretary Morrison of the Federation of Labor.

The messages, which voiced the sentiments of persons in almost every avenue of labor, convey feelings of regret over the court's decision, extend moral and financial sympathy and express indignation.

Mr. Bryan, in a telegram dated Pittsburg, says: "Sorry to read decision. You did your duty in testing law. Glad you are taking appeal."

Starr Offers to Surrender.

Guthrie, Okla., Dec. 26.—Governor Haskell announced that he had received word from Henry Starr, the noted bandit, that Starr was ready to surrender to the state and stand trial upon charges against him in this state if Governor Haskell would guarantee immunity against extradition to other states. Starr is wanted in a number of states for various causes. The governor said that he would not consent to such an arrangement.

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INQUIRY HITS ALL PACKERS.

Government Plans to Reopen "Beef Trust" Case.

DETAILS ARE KEPT A SECRET

District Attorney Sims Announces That Methods of Big Packing Firm Will Be Gone Into Thoroughly if Present Investigation.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—In addition to the inquiry in regard to shipping rates and possible rebates, United States District Attorney Sims announced that the methods of the big packing firms would be gone into thoroughly in the present investigation. Special agents of the interstate commerce commission, as well as secret service agents who work directly under the department of justice, are prepared, according to the district attorney, to give the results of their investigations to the grand jury. These officials have been trying to determine whether tacit agreements between packers as to the fixing of prices and the division of territory for distribution have been in systematic operation.

"This is no mere 'fishing' expedition," said Mr. Sims. "We know what we are going after, although we are not permitted by the nature of the inquiry to state what it is. We are not merely starting a little case in which packers or railroads are concerned in the hope that we can unearth some information which will be of value to be used as a basis for a new and more extensive investigation."

The federal grand jury will convene Monday, and in addition to the rate inquiry the investigation is said to include an attempt to show that the spirit of the law which prohibits agreements on prices of products has been violated in various markets.

No witnesses from packing concerns other than Nelson Morris & Co. have so far been summoned, but the witnesses already subpoenaed will keep the grand jury busy during the greater part of next week.

CLEMENCY FOR WIFE SLAYER.

James Lane Is Liberated From State Reformatory at Anamosa.

Des Moines, Dec. 26.—At the age of seventy-two years, and bowed by a long confinement, James Lane was liberated from the state reformatory at Anamosa, where he was committed for murder and where he would have been confined until 1915 if he lived, had it not been for the clemency of the retiring governor, A. B. Cummings. His sentence was commuted on Christmas day and freedom came as a welcome present to him. He hastened to the home of one of his sons in Minnesota, one of the provisions of his release, where he will spend the remainder of his life. Lane was convicted of killing his wife.

Autoists Win Legal Point.

Des Moines, Dec. 26.—A ruling of the Polk county district court that will be of interest to automobile owners all over the state has just been made. Several auto owners were arrested and fined in police court here for not having red lights on the rear end of their cars. They appealed and the district court holds the lower court erred. The law reads that the auto shall have a white light in front and a red light on the reverse side. The district court interpreted this to mean that the red light should be on the reverse side of the front white light and not on the reverse side of the automobile.

CASTRO THROWS UP SPONGE.

Practically Abandons Claim to Venezuelan Presidency.

Berlin, Dec. 25.—Cipriano Castro gave a statement to the Associated Press, which amounts virtually to an abandonment of his claims to the presidency of Venezuela. This statement follows:

"After taking cognizance of everything printed in the newspapers from Venezuela I doubt the attitude therein attributed to the present government at Caracas. But I will have more to say on this subject when I am in better health and when I have full knowledge of what has occurred. In any event, I shall place no difficulties in the way of the present administration of Venezuela in settling the pending controversies with foreign governments, even if this should involve my own withdrawal from activity in the affairs of the nation."

General Castro will remain for two weeks longer in the private sanitarium of Dr. Israel. He will give out no information concerning his future plans.

CHINESE DESIRE AN EMBASSY.

Foreign Board Would Raise Standard of Its Representatives Abroad.

Pekin, Dec. 25.—The foreign board has received a cablegram from Tang Shao Yi, at Washington, saying that the Washington government has responded favorably to the proposal made by China to raise the Chinese legation at Washington to the rank of an embassy. Tang Shao Yi is the Chinese official who is at present in the United States on a diplomatic mission from his government. When Tang Shao Yi left Peking he went first to Tokyo and there broached the subject of raising the Chinese legation to an embassy. He received an equivocal answer.

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Smooth, rich, fragrant—a happy surprise for coffee lovers. A skilled and scientific blending of "Old Crop" Coffees, with a pleasing individuality.

OLD GOLDEN is not sold in bulk, but always comes to you in air- and moisture-proof packages—your protection. Ask your grocer.

25c. Pound

TOPE BRO'S., Des Moines, Iowa.

STANDARD MAY ASK REHEARING.

Attorney Eddy Confers With Kansas City Representatives.

Kansas City, Dec. 28.—Alfred E. Eddy, the general western attorney of the Standard Oil company, spent much of the day in conference with Frank Hagerman, who represents the company in Kansas City.

"This is the first time we were ever ousted from a state," Mr. Eddy said. "The Waters-Pierce company, in which the Standard Oil company is interested, was ousted from Texas once, but the company was reorganized and admitted. This is the first time that any government in the world ever ordered a Standard Oil company to get out and said our goods were contraband and we had no rights. Consequently we are not prepared for the next move. I suppose it will be an application for a rehearing in the state supreme court. If the law is constitutional we have no right to operate our property and no power to sell it."

If the Missouri supreme court stands firm on its judgment of ouster and there is no way to overturn it, Kansas City, Kan., and Quincy, Ill., may become important shipping points for oil and the wholesale grocers may buy it and bring it into Missouri to sell to retail grocers for distribution.

More Evidence Against Night Riders.

Union City, Tenn., Dec. 26.—Additional evidence, the confessions of three alleged members of the night rider band of Redfoot lake, was offered the state, it is stated, in connection with the trials of eight alleged leaders of the riders accused of having a part in the lynching of Captain Quentin Ranken at Walnut Log. Whether the evidence will be accepted under the proviso of the men who offered to testify that the three be used as state witnesses, is doubtful, the prosecution considering that enough evidence has already been given on their part.

Oklahoma Town Fire Swept.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Dec. 26.—Practically the entire business section of Ravia, Okla., a town of 1,200 inhabitants, in Johnston county, was wiped out by fire, the loss aggregating about \$55,000. Five business houses, a lumber yard and three warehouses were burned. A defective fuse caused the fire. The Merrill-Houston Lumber company, \$20,000, and L. D. Comstock's store, \$10,000, were the heaviest losers.

Patient Crushed in Hospital.

Racine, Wis., Dec. 26.—Miss Mary Ann Hardy was crushed to death in an elevator at St. Mary's hospital. She was taken to the hospital for an operation. While being removed from an elevator in a wheel chair the elevator started, causing her death.